

The Salesian Way of St. John Bosco—Quick Intro to a Catholic Anthropology

| The Salesian Way | Catholic understanding of the human person | Modern secular way (with examples) |
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| I will be cheerful. Hope | We are made for happiness (JPII). Cheerfulness is a choice. Happiness is tied to the will. Love is a decision. | I'm happy when I am passively entertained. (Screen time in schools, teachers trying to make school entertaining) |
| I will do my duties well. Justice | Justice is foundational to the flourishing of human society. There is no sanctity without duty. Excellence vs. mediocrity | Worldly motivation: I will do what is needed to get what I want. My duty/conscience = my choice (Behavior modification) |
| I will stay close to Jesus in the Eucharist. Faith | Christ is our center: In Him we live and move and have our being—source and summit of the Christian life There is no real education without Him—Logos of all things | A void exists in every human heart; the world offers unhealthy responses to that emptiness. (Addictions and the cultural trend toward over-medication) |
| I will honor Mary as my Mother and Helper. Filial Piety Humility | Heavenly Mother that we all have We are nurturing souls, not producing results. The family as a model for school life Deepen the role of the family in the life of the school, and deepen the role of education in the life of the family (St. Jerome Educational Plan) | Rejection of creation: male/female, motherhood, fatherhood, family life I define/create/identify myself. (Attack on the family, natural law and the natures of things) |
| I choose to be kind. Charity | Charity determines our place in Heaven. True charity—requires detachment Love of God and Love of neighbor for God's sake We are training the will: Fiat Voluntas Tua | I am a good person. I am nice. Mentioning my offenses challenges my identity as a good person. (Moral relativism) |
| I want to serve rather than be served. Fortitude | Unselfishness is at the heart of Christian living. Initiative, stepping up to support the common good and the individual good of others | I want to do things the easy way. (Attachment to pleasure, unwillingness to do what is arduous for the sake of the good) |